

Idaho Transportation Department
District 1
U.S. Highway 95 Corridor Plan
September 2015

BACKGROUND

In late 2012, a corridor study of US-95 through District 1 was begun (Key No. 11223). The study was completed in late 2014 for all segments resulting in four reports in each of the segments: Historic Improvements Report, Existing Conditions Report, Future Conditions Report and Special Issue Report. The study produced reports for US-95 in Benewah County, Kootenai County and combined reports for Bonner and Boundary counties. All Corridor Study Reports are available on the Idaho Transportation Department website, District 1 page (<http://itd.idaho.gov/projects/D1/>). The study did not cover every mile of US-95, rather, the stretches of the highway that had not been reconstructed or realigned in the last fifteen years, or so, were reviewed. As a means of performance comparison, each county segment had an operational review of some of the areas that did receive major improvements in the last fifteen or more years, which are addressed in each of the Historic Improvements Reports. See each of the reports for findings, conclusions and recommendations for inclusion in the Highway Needs for US-95.

It is the intent that this Corridor Plan be a living document which continually determines needs along the corridor, prioritizes the needs and feeds the needs into the Highway Needs Spreadsheet. Listed needs are the basis for the ongoing, annual update of the Idaho Transportation Investment Program. The Plan is based on the 2013 US-95 Corridor Study as well as ongoing input from district personnel, the district maintenance foremen, elected officials and the public. The Plan is a repository of documented highway needs. Prioritization of needs is based on the vision of the corridor, type of project that will satisfy the need, the funding category for the type of project and urgency that the need be met.

Organization – The needs list is a spreadsheet containing all the documented needs along the corridor. The list is arranged by milepost in ascending order across the district. The various columns in the spreadsheet give pertinent information that give definition to the need, list the priority and assign responsibility to a district section to pursue satisfaction of the need. Ongoing disposition of the each need is also documented and periodically updated on the spreadsheet.

To put the needs list in the context of the linear highway, an overview of the highway sections between major points is presented below followed by the list and description of the needs. The US-95 Highway Needs Spreadsheet may be viewed at the District 1 office at 600 W. Prairie Avenue, Coeur d'Alene. (or contact the Transportation Planner at 208-772-8019)

Benewah County Segment (MP 371.605 to MP 398.055)

US-95 through Benewah County is basically a two-lane rural highway with an alignment that generally follows the contour of the land and crosses many small creeks. The highway is the Main Street for the cities of Tensed and Plummer. Very few improvement projects have been undertaken in the last fifteen years on US-95 in Benewah County. Projects that have been recently completed are:

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The Electrical Substation to Smith Creek project (KN 05356, MP 371.599 to 372.908) in 2004 relocated the highway on a new alignment over Marsh Hill in both Latah and Benewah counties. The highway has two, twelve foot wide travel lanes, truck climbing lanes over the hill and eight foot wide shoulders.

Plummer Creek Bridge Replacement (KN) in 2013 replaced structures at Plummer Creek with large diameter culverts and reshaped the creek bed.

Plummer Passing Lanes (KN) in 2006 added a passing lane northbound from Plummer to the top of the hill just to the south of the county line.

Projects programmed for construction are:

Smith Creek to Sheep Creek (MP 372.908 to MP 376.82 KN 09458) 2016 construction

Hangman Creek Overflow Bridge replacement (MP 381.63 KN 13853) 2017 construction

Windfall Pass Curve (MP 388 to MP 388.5 KN 18999) 2018 construction

Moctileme Creek Bridge replacement (MP 388.58 KN 13852) 2018 construction

Kootenai County Segment (MP 398.055 to MP 451.135)

US-95 through Kootenai County has a short two-lane rural highway segment up to Worley but most of the highway has been improved over the last three decades to a multilane configuration with the most recent projects improving the highway to a four lane divided, rural section. Through Coeur d'Alene, south of I-90, the highway is a five lane urban section. Many improvement projects have been undertaken in the last fifteen years on US-95 in Kootenai County. Projects that have been recently completed are:

Worley to Mica (MP 401.45 to MP 421.3 KNs 7747, 8070, etc.), various project constructed between 2004 and 2016 which expanded the highway to a four-lane divided configuration a few miles of which are on new alignment.

Wyoming Avenue to Ohio Match Road (MP 434 to MP 438.24 KN 8065, 9780), expanded the highway on its present alignment to a four-lane divided configuration with signalized intersections at Wyoming Avenue, Lancaster Avenue, SH-53 and Garwood Road.

Garwood to Sagle – (MP 438.24 to MP 452.5 KN 9790, 9791), expanded the highway on its existing alignment to a four-lane divided freeway with frontage roads and three grade separated interchanges.

Projects programmed for construction are:

Benewah County Line to Worley (MP 397.65 to MP 401.525 KN 13405) 2017 construction

Cougar Creek to Blackwell Slough (MP 426.5 to MP 429.981 KN 13854) 2018 construction

Blackwell Slough to I-90 Overpass (MP 428.981 to MP 430.59 KN ORN19606)* 2020 construction

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Interchange #430 (Northwest Boulevard) to Lacrosse Avenue (MP 429.633 to MP 430 KN ORN19607)*
Early Development

Ironwood Intersection (MP 430.25 to 430.45 KN ORN19406)* 2016 construction

Aqua Avenue to Miles Avenue turning movement restrictions (MP 433.55 to MP 435.45 KN
ORN19369)* Early Development **(*ORN Key Numbers are pending approval)**

Bonner County Segment (MP 451.135 to MP 491.771)

US-95 through Bonner County has had major alignment, safety and capacity improvements in the Sandpoint and Ponderay area recently along with a major corridor planning effort between the Kootenai County line and Sagle. The highway has mostly a two-lane rural configuration through Bonner County with the exception of the recently improved areas listed below. Projects that have been recently completed are:

Garwood to Sagle Corridor Plan (MP 451.135 to MP 469.75 KN 09779), resulted in a Record of Decision from the Federal Highway Administration which authorizes a four-lane divided freeway with frontage roads and seven grade separated interchanges.

Sand Creek Byway (MP 474 to MP 476 KN 1729), construction was completed in 2012 bringing US-95 to a new alignment thus removing it from downtown Sandpoint and included grade separated interchanges at two locations.

Sandpoint to Kootenai Cutoff (MP 476 to 479 KN 1529), constructed a four-lane divided highway with at-grade, signalized intersections and u-turn provisions dispersed along the highway and right-in, right-out approaches for adjacent commercial uses.

Projects programmed for construction are:

Cocolalla Creek Bridge replacement MP458.24 KN 13850) 2017 construction

Sandpoint Long Bridge repair (MP 471.743 to MP 471.74 KN ORN19643)* 2020 construction

Elmira Road Turnbay (MP 490.4 to MP 490.7 KN 18923) 2019 construction

Boundary County Segment (MP 491.771 to MP 438.562)

US-95 through Boundary County has had the northern most end of the segment improved in the last fifteen years while much of the remainder of the segment is two-lane, rural highway. Projects that have been recently completed are:

Copeland Junction to Canada (MP 521 to MP 527 and MP 536 to MP 538 KNS 4177, 7748,6508, 6517), new alignment in a four-lane, undivided configuration to MP 527 and new alignment, river bridges replacement and grade separated railroad crossing for three miles approaching the international border at Eastgate.

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Projects programmed for construction are:

MP 504 to Bonners Ferry North City Limit (MP 506.2 to MP 506.9 KN 12964) [Phase 1: Alderson Lane to Madison Street] 2018 construction

Echo Drive to MP 515.5 (MP 511.08 to MP 515.5 KN 13859) 2019 construction

Round Prairie Creek to Canada (MP 526.67 to MP 536.56 KN 13407) 2017 construction